

DS

Thanks for the pk^t of
Fremontia & Fraxinus anomala
safely rec^d some days ago.

York 11/9 mo. 1874

Dear Dr Gray

I beg that thou wilt
not give thyself one moment's further
concern about the Mertensia virginica
& Dr. Phloxes! Casualties of this
kind in one way or other so often
occur that one gets a sort of accu-
stomed & "case hardened". And
in this instance it really is not
of much moment. We got a fair
lot of the Mertensia some time
ago from a Continental Nursery,
& I expect that Dr. Parry will
get more of the Phlox in Colorado.
There was a trace of life in ^{or two} one
of the plants just to hand.
It would grieve me to think that
any mishap of this kind was causing
the more than momentary regret.

If thou wilt kindly let me know
what their transport &c cost, I
will remit for it at once.

And please do not take any
trouble about Lith. hirtum. If
any good opportunity for obtaining
it presents, all well; but I cannot
think of having thy time occupied
in catering after my concerns.

I will gladly supply examples
of the things Dr Parry has sent
seeds of, when we raise them.
Judging by the dried specimens
there will not be many of them
of much horticultural value;
but there are, among the annuals
especially, 5 or 6 that promise
well, & some of the perennials
(e.g. the Dalea & Phlox, & Calochortus
flexuosus) which look propitious.
I think it is likely that I shall

send the seeds of some of those
which ^{apparently} have a "botanical" value only
~~merely~~, to Dr Hooker. Not but
that I would also send the
showy kinds to him afterwards;
only, in the first instance, a very
small quantity of some of them
would suffice for us, & these as
objects of scientific interest rather
than of hort. value. I quite un-
derstand that Dr Parry sends the
set of specimens, quite under-
standing that some only will
be of commercial value. I antici-
pate his gleanings in Colorado
being of the most value in that
way. I forget whether he sent
more of the Agave Utahensis, but
have a vague idea that a reserve
lot were sent to the Bot. Gardens?

If so, they can come any time.

Very sincerely
Chas Backhouse (over)

Ranunculus adonis is
doing well with us.